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What is claimed is:

b)

A method for treating a patient having a chronic HCV infection, comprising: 1. 5 administering to said patient's blood a photoactivatable compound; and a) treating at least a portion of said patient's blood of step a) with light in a b) wavelength that activates said photoactivatable compound, and returning the treated blood to said patient. 10 The method of claim 1 wherein said photoactivatable compound is a psoralen. 2. The method of claim 2 wherein said psoralen is 8-methoxypsoralen. 3. 15 A method for treating a patient having a chronic HCV infection, wherein said patient has 4. been previously treated with interferon alpha, comprising: administering to said patient's blood a photoactivatable compound; and a) 20 treating at least a portion of said patient's blood of step a) with light in a **b**) wavelength that activates said photoactivatable compound, and returning the treated blood to said patient. The method of claim 4 wherein said photoactivatable compound is a psoralen. 5. 25 The method of claim 5 wherein said psoralen is 8-methoxypsoralen. 6. A method for treating a patient having a chronic HCV infection, comprising: 7. 30 administering interferon alpha to said patient; a)

administering to said patient's blood a photoactivatable compound; and

5

- c) treating at least a portion of said patient's blood of step b) with light in a wavelength that activates said photoactivatable compound and returning the treated blood to said patient.
- 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said photoactivatable compound is a psoralen.
- 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said psoralen is 8-methoxypsoralen.